



April 2004

APRIL MEETING IS KERMIT'S PARTY
BE SURE TO COME TO KEN AND PAT'S HOUSE AT 404 FOURTH
STREET EAST
TAKE EAST SPAIN STREET FROM SONOMA PLAZA EAST THREE
BLOCKS

FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL

April is going to be a busy month for VOMARC. The number one item on the agenda is the club Hamfest on April 24th. Anyone who can help should contact either me or Darrel to get put on the help list. Another big one is advertising. Talk it up to all the hams you meet, either personally or on the nets you check into.

Remember, this event is our big money maker of the year. We have been fortunate in the past to always come out ahead, but we can't take anything for granted. We are going to lose attendance because the big DX convention in Visalia is also on the same weekend, so we need

to rely on getting all the hams in the area to show up.

Our monthly meeting will be a little different. Kermit, W6JFN, will be moving out of the area in May, so we decided to have a picnic to give him and Janet a good send off. Try to make the picnic/meeting. It should be a lot of fun.

Under the title of something unexpected:

On a recent trip to Virginia City, I discovered an outstanding old radio museum and highly recommend it if you are ever in the area. You can get a look by going to <http://www.radioblvd.com/> The owners are Henry Rogers

WA7YBS and Sharon Rogers
KK7EI.

We may have some good news with regards to the solar panel charger. Jan, AE6FQ has a friend that has done similar designs and says that he can get the proper inductor, the only part that has been the sticking point in the whole project. So, let's keep our fingers crossed.

Randy, AA6GV, has decided to give up the job of VE coordinator. On behalf of the club, I would like to thank him for his many years of service in performing this very important job. If anyone is interested in taking on the job, please let me know.

I would also like to thank all the instructors of our latest ham class, especially Darrel for all the organizing and Steve, KD6KVY, for getting us the room at the fire station. I look forward to having some new hams in the area and hopefully some more members for VOMARC.

See you all at the next meeting at Ken's house and remember to turn on that radio and talk to someone.

73, Jim

KERMIT PARKER, W6JFN, IS MOVING TO WASHINGTON

Early next month, Kermit and Janet will be moving to Issaquah, Wash. We are going to miss them both. It's

impossible to write about all his accomplishments in a short newsletter, so I am going to try to hit the highlights.

Kermit first moved to Sonoma in 1947. He was stationed at the now closed Hamilton AFB, where he was a communication officer with the 4th Air Force. One notable job was to set up radar sites in the northern states.

His next assignment was in Korea, where he worked directly for the commander of 5th Air Force installing communications facilities throughout the country. Kermit came back to Sonoma and retired from the military in 1958.

Needing something to keep him busy, Kermit started working for OCLI as a coating machine operator and eventually wound up as the company's senior technical specialist. He could do it all, electrical, mechanical and the optical. Some of the test machines that he designed are still being used. While driving down Broadway one day in 1964, he noticed some construction going on and he stopped to inquire. That started a very long association between Kermit and Traintown.

Kermit has been a long time member of VOMARC. He, Sam Sullivan, Paul Dixon, John Sharpe, and Ed Caine were the builders of the famous communications van, used for

years for various fire and police actions. Ask him about his adventures using ATV (amateur television).

Kermit was first licensed as W6JFN in 1948. He has held calls, W7OYN, W0OVO and VK4FJN.

Ken and Pat have graciously offered their home for a picnic at the next meeting night, April 21. The address is 404 4th St E. here in Sonoma. Just drive east on Spain St. and go to the end.

On behalf on all the members of VOMARC, I want to wish them good health and much happiness. Thank you for all your hard work and the special kindness that you have shown us all.

73, Jim, K6UUW

COINCIDENTS EVERYWHERE!

Saturday March 27th, a beautiful day in Sonoma County, Linda, KG6LJM, and Dan, KG6LJN, took a drive out to Bodega Bay. Met up with XE1HDD/W6, Dana. You may have heard Dana on the 145.350 repeater this last month. Dana is a student attending Sac State University. He is majoring in Psychology and is in his third year pursuing a degree in counseling. He presently lives in Roseville Ca. He originates from the town of OAXACA, 400 miles south of Mexico City. He has a General Class license and may be heard

on HF Bands 75 meters and 40 meters. He loves to stay in his trailer in campgrounds at the ocean during school breaks. Dana has made many Ham Radio friends during his excursions, from Point Arena to Ventura, and around Sonoma County.

It was a pleasure for my wife and I to meet and spend the afternoon with this young man. He has many experiences to share. The three of us located the DX team contesting at Doran Park. They had set up a vertical over salt water, which was very well engineered and effective. One of the Hams there works with Dana's father at the Roseville Rail Yards. "Small World"!

Submitted by Dan, KG6LJN

MINUTES FOR MARCH 17, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at McDougal Hall.

The minutes were approved as printed in the March newsletter.

Jim, K6UUW, asked that if anyone would rather receive the VOMARC newsletter by email that they send him an email request to jhill@vom.com to that effect.

Ken, N6KM, had sold \$60 worth of VOMARC club t-shirts before the meeting, and will have a full report on total shirt sales at the next meeting. It was requested from the floor that the treasurer

offer his report broken down by category.

Ken, N6KM, gave the ACS report. He is planning on meeting someone at the hospital to go over the radio installation there, and is also planning to have ACS training later this year. The emergency communications facilities will have the power connectors changed to Anderson Power Pole to conform to the Sonoma County ACS standard. The police station and EOC may be remodeled in the near future so the EOC will have to be relocated elsewhere during construction. A recent Monday net had 13 check-ins.

Steve, K2IYQ, talked about the Eagle Project, which is a team working to build the next amateur radio satellite. Steve and a number of other VOMARC members are working on this project. He reported that the estimated launch date is three to four years away. This is the second time Sonoma County hams have had a major part in building a recent amateur radio satellite.

Jan, AE6FQ, gave a report on the VOMARC web site

Old Business:

We still need to fill the July and August net control positions for the VOMARC Wednesday night net.

Hamfest is coming up Saturday, April 24. Members can contact Darrel, WD6BOR, at 996-4494,

to help. The antenna raising party is 4 p.m. Friday, April 23, at the Sonoma Vet's Building.

New Business:

Joan's, W6WXU, Granddaughter Mattie has upgraded to Extra class.

One of our members (we didn't get his name) wants to sponsor a young ham to get him or her started in the hobby.

Respectfully submitted, Ashley, KG6LJP

HAMFEST SATURDAY, APRIL 24

The annual VOMARC hamfest is here again! The following are our personnel needs and the people we have signed up so far.

Set-up, 7 to 8 am, six people:
Jan, AE6FQ and Eileen, KG6QNT
Break-down, 11 to noon, six people:

Mike, WB6TMH

Breakfast, 7 to 9 a.m., six people:

Ed, W1EJ, Tom, KG6QJQ, Dick, KF6FZM, Jan, K9OOU, Ed, KF6CLE

Breakfast, 9 to 11 a.m., six people:

Ed, W1EJ, Steve, KD6KVY, Jonathan, Dave, Catherine, KD6LNP

Registration, 8 to 10 a.m., two people:

Ashley, KG6LJP, Eileen, KG6QNT
Swap registration, two people:

Joan, W6WXU, Larry

Club swap table, 8 to 11 a.m., two people:

John, W6TWQ
 Talk-in, 7 to 10 a.m., one
 person:
 Ed, KA6OFR
 VE, 9 to 11 a.m., six VEs:
 Randy, AA6GV
 Fox Hunt, 9 to 11 a.m., one
 person:
 Mike, WB6TMH
 Club station, 8 to 11 a.m., two
 people:
 Jim, K6UUW

As you can see, we need a few
 more hands. Call Darrel,
 WD6BOR, at 996-4494, before
 he calls you! CU there!

**SONOMA VALLEY ACS NET
 CONTROL ASSIGNMENTS,
 2004**

Month	Call	Name
APRIL	K6ITE	GEORGE
MAY	KG6ASY	TIM
JUNE	KG6QNU	SAM
JULY	KF6QZP	CRAIG
AUGUST	KD6KVY	STEVE
SEPTEMBER	KF6FZM	DICK
OCTOBER	KG6QNT	EILEEN
NOVEMBER	W6WXU	JOAN
DECEMBER	KG6LJN	DAN

Those assigned to a particular
 month will also be expected to
 check into the SONOMA Op Area
 net at 1900 hours on 146.73 to
 represent Sonoma Valley and to
 give the check-ins from the
 week before. Be prepared to
 act as NCS on this net if Sonoma
 Valley is next in rotation. Bring
 any announcements back from
 that net to our S. V. local net at
 1930 hours.

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 8 EDITION 4

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of
 the Moon Amateur Radio Club - W6AJF

Frank C. Jones - W6AJF
 Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jim Hill, K6UUW - President
 George Maurer, K6ITE- Vice-Pres
 Joan Brady, W6WXU - Secretary
 Ken McTaggart, N6KM - Treasurer
 Eileen Adams, KG6QNT, Membership
 Chair
 Mike Miller, WB6TMH - Radio Officer
 Ken McTaggart, N6KM - ACS
 Jan Bush, AE6FQ - Webmeister
 Darrel Jones, WD6BOR - Editor

***Receipt of the Wireless is one of
 the most sought after benefits of
 membership in VOMARC.***

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the
 third Wednesday of each month,
 alternating between McDougal Hall at
 the Sonoma Developmental Center,
 Eldridge, and the Sonoma Fire Station,
 630 2nd Street West, Sonoma. Meetings
 start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE:
<http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night
 at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except
 meeting nights on the 145.350
 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening
 at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600,
 PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is on 144.910 as "SNV1EC". "SNVGW" can be used as a gateway digipeating on 223.66 MHz. The node name is "SNVND".

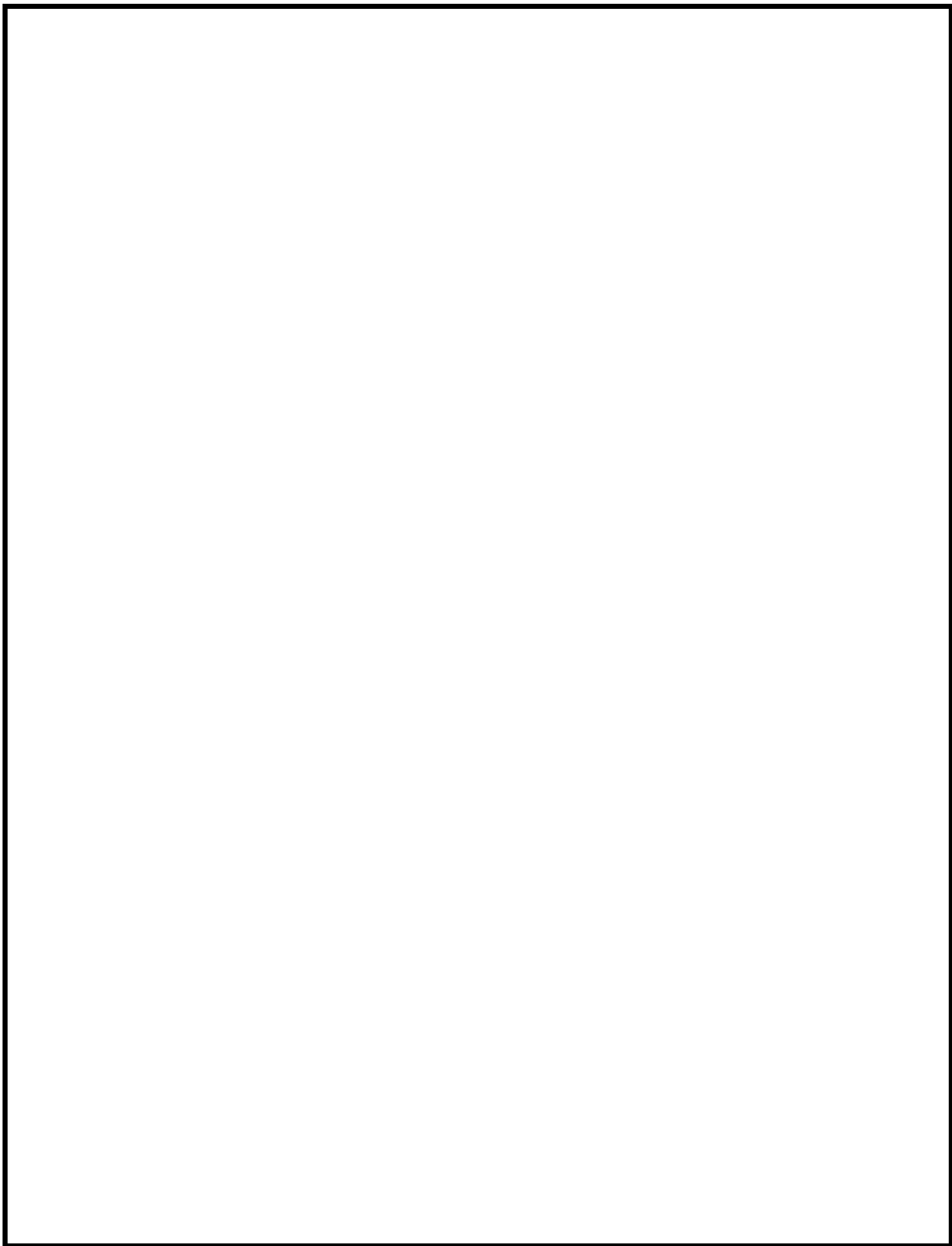
CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Issa's Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

WD6BOR@VOM.COM

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476



**Valley of the Moon
ARC
1496 Nut Tree Lane
Carmichael, CA 95610**

**NOTICE!!! THE MARCH VOMARC MEETING IS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, AT 7:30 P.M. KEN AND PAT
MCTAGGART'S HOUSE, 404 FOURTH STREET EAST.
CU THERE!**

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2004 Membership Dues: \$10/year individual; \$5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC: \$ _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Ken N6KM, or Jim K6UUW, 1496 Nut Tree Lane, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the January meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger, email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**